

Kaeng Silathip,

lies along the route leading to the park headquarters. The site of the rapid offers a two hour long stretch of plant observation trek.

Another rapid , Kaeng Sam Phan Phi, is about 4 kms. south of the headquarters accessible by car. It is an observation site of high biodiversity of plantlife.

Kaeng Kalao,

a short distance south of the park headquarters and accessibility by car it is another spot to observe plantlife.

Phu Hin Dang

Phu Hin Dang is a high cliff that offers panoramic view of Laos and Cambodia lie below. The rocky flats are of different geological features. During the cool season, a sea of mist shrouds the site. To reach it, take highway# 2248 from Amphur Buntharik and proceed for about 15 kms. Take a left turn at Ban Huay Kha and go on for another 18 kms. , passing through Ban Nong Mek to Sae Lamduan where the parking site is located. Go on foot for two kms. to reach the destination.

Huay Sai Yai Waterfall

Also known as the Kaeng E-khiew, it is in Amphur Buntharik about 29 kms. from the district town on the Buntharik-Chong Mek route. The small fall is best visited during September-December.

Kaeng Lamduan Waterfall

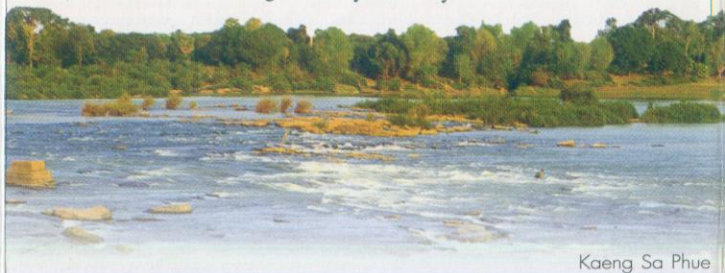
Located within the Yod Dome Wildlife Sanctuary at Ban Nong Khon, Amphur Nam Yuen, it is about 12 kms. from the district town on Highway # 2248. A small rapid in a Lamduan flowering plant orchard, it should be visited during September-January.

Sirinthon Dam

Built across the Lam Dome Noi in Amphur Sirinthon, it is about 75 kms. from the provincial town on highway # 217. Apart from generating power, within the dam area are beautifully landscaped gardens with a profusion of flowering plants. There are also standard accommodations and other facilities for meetings. For more information, call the dam's headquarters at (045) 366081-3

Kaeng Saphue

Kaeng Saphue is one of the most scenic rapids of Ubon Ratchathani. Located in the Mun River in Amphur Phibul Mangsahan, it is about 45 kms. from town on Highway# 217. The best time to visit is during February and May.

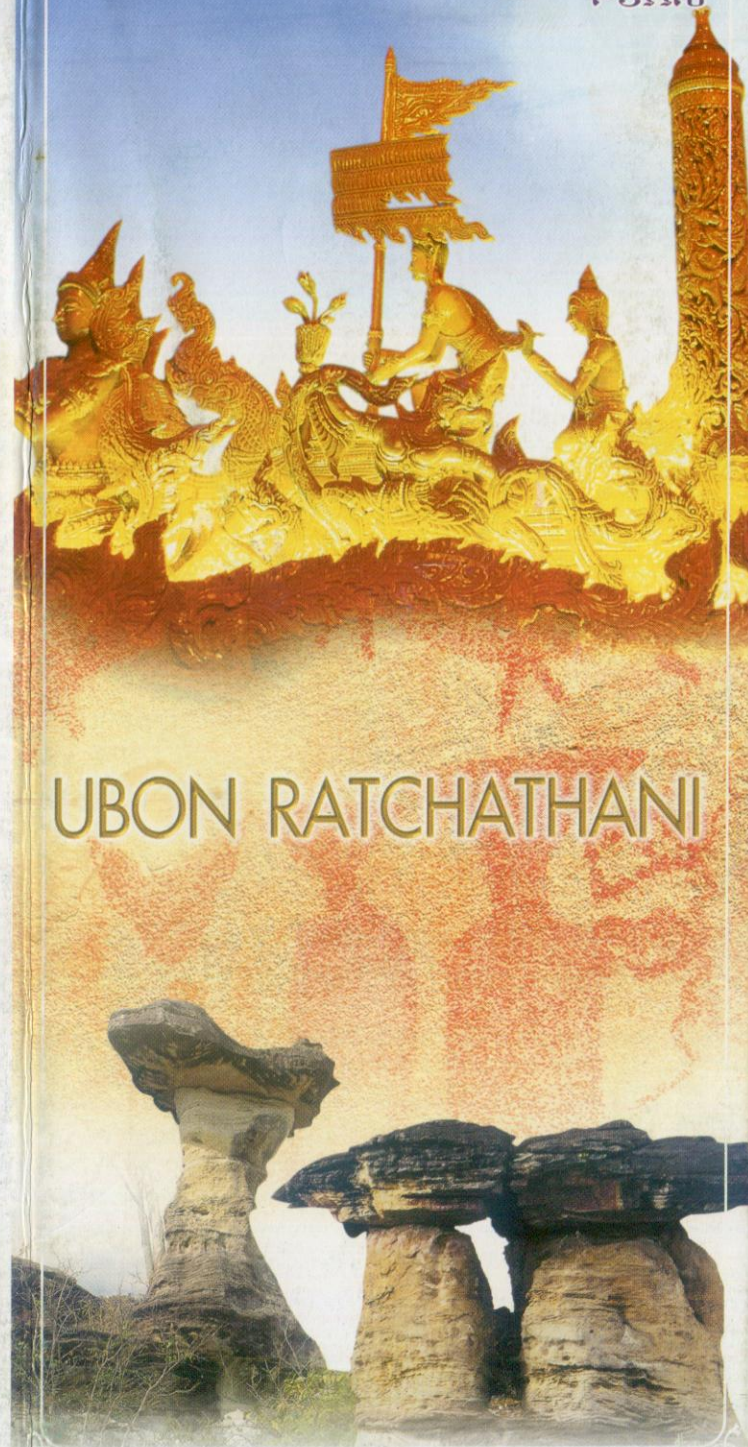


Kaeng Sa Phue



Tourism Authority of Thailand
North-Eastern Office:Region 2

(Ubonratchathani,Yasothon,Srisaket,Amnatcharoen)
264/1 Khuan Thani Rd., Muang, Ubonratchathani 34000
Tel : 0-4524-3770, 0-4525-0714 Fax : 0-4524-3771



Ubon Ratchathani

*A major province of the Northeast,
Ubon Ratchathani is the eastern-most
Province of Thailand,
bordering on Laos and Cambodia*



► History

About 200 years ago, a group of princes and their followers fled from Vientiane to seek asylum under King Taksin the Great of Thailand. Subsequently, they built a town at Dong U Phung near the Mun river. In 2322 B.E. (circa 1779), after the completion of the city moats, they submitted a petition to the King to become a protectorate. The following year, King Taksin dispatched a senior official with a Royal Command to name the town Ubon Ratchathani. A prince, Thao Khampong, was installed as the first governor who was later given the title of Phra Phatumwongsa.

Ubon Ratchathani was ruled by four successive princes until 2425 (1882) when governors were appointed instead.

► Getting There

Ubon Ratchathani is about 629 kms. from Bangkok by road or 575 kms. by train. It is easily accessible by land and by air

► ATTRACTIONS WATS AND ANTIQUITIES

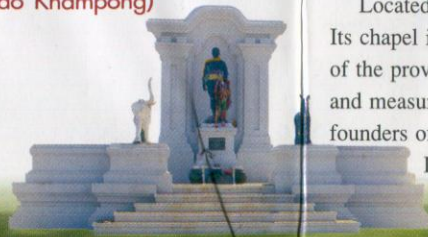
Toong Si Muang

Located in town center in front of the town hall. A public park, it offers pleasant and beautiful surroundings. With four entry gates, its major features include.

Phra Phatumvararatsuriyawong (Chao Khampong)

Memorial, the founder of the town.
Monument of Merit

Erected by foreign prisoners-of-war in World War II in recognition of the kindness and compassion of the people of Ubon.



Phra Phatumvararatsuriyawong (Chao Khampong)

San Lak Muang

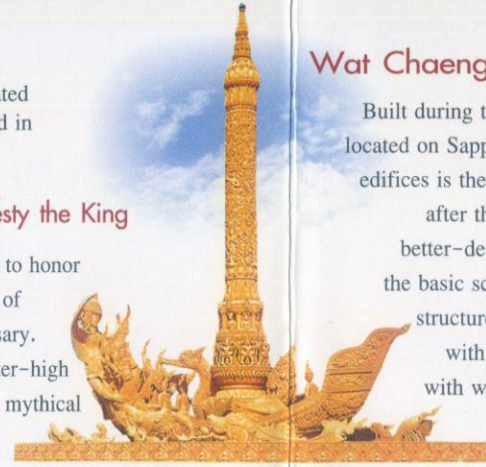
The city pillar is a sacred site highly venerated by towns-people and visitors. It was erected in 2515 (1972)

Candle Sculpture to Honor His Majesty the King

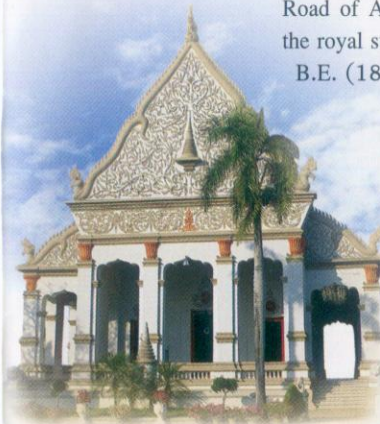
This sculpture was completed in 2000 to honor His Majesty the King on the occasion of His Majesty's 72nd birthday anniversary.

The work is in the shape of a 22 meter-high candle and situated on a junk and the mythical creatures of garuda and naga (serpent).

It features a contemporary northeastern (Isan) art style and relates to the story "Phra Maha Chanok" that was composed by His Majesty.



Wat Suphatanaram



Wat Suphatanaram

The first temple of Dharmayuti denomination of the province. Located on Somdej Road of Amphur Muang, it was built with the royal support of King Rama IV in 2396

B.E. (1853), the name Wat Suphatanaram meaning temple at an appropriate location, a good harbor. The main features include the main chapel which measures 20 m. wide 34 m. long and 22 m. high.

It was designed by Luang Sathinimankan, a highway engineer. The structure is set into three sections. The roof is of Thai architectural style.

And the midsection and lower section follow the style of the ancient

Khmer. Within the chapel is enshrined the principal Buddha statue, the Phra Sapphayu Chao in the Marn Vichai Posture. Cast on July 4, 2459 B.E. (1916), it has a lap width of about 1 meter and is of polished gloss but not gilded.

Wat Si Ubonratanaram (Wat Si Thong)

Located to the south of the town hall on Uparat Road, it was built in 2398 B.E. (1855), the 5th reigning year of King Rama V. Its chapel is a replica of the chapel at the Marble Temple in Bangkok and houses Phra Kaew Busarakham, the most important statue of the province. It is a Buddha image in the subduing Mara stance of Chiang Saen style sculptured in topaz, with a lap width of 5 and measures 10 high from the base to the tip of the top-knot. Legend has it that the statue was brought from Vientiane by the founders of the town. Originally, it may have been enshrined at Ban Don Mod Daeng and later moved to Wat Si Ubonratanaram.

During the times of absolute monarchy, the traditional Oath of Allegiance was performed here where the statue was held as the principal entity of the ceremony. During the Songkran season, the townspeople ceremonially carry the Phra Kaew Busarakham in a procession around town to provide the devout Buddhists with an opportunity to pay homage and sprinkle lustral water over the image.

Wat Chaeng

Built during the reign of King Rama V in 2431 B.E. (1888), it is located on Sapphasith Road in Amphur Muang. Among the important edifices is the chapel which was completed in 2455 B.E., 24 years after the establishment of the temple. Regarded as one of the better-designed structure, it is decorated with wood carvings of the basic school, which is becoming rare today. A medium-sized structure, it measures 6 m. wide, 15 m. long and 10 m. high with low base. Its single-level roof was originally covered with wooden tiles which were replaced with terra-cotta tiles.

The railings of the front steps are in the shape of crouching crocodiles. The gables and other architectural ornaments are made of wood and carved with lotus and lotus clump designs. Especially the Harn Hong piece is carved in the shape of Naga's head with a fluttering crest.

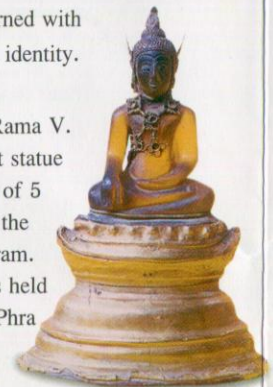
Regular renovation works on the chapel have endeavored to maintain its original condition. As a result, it has been given a royal award for Outstanding Antiquities during the Architect 30 exhibition.



Sim Wat Jang

Wat Sa Prasansuk (Bun Na Muang)

The temple is located at Ban Na Muang, Tambon Patum, Amphur Muang. Follow the northeast town by-pass road. Just beyond the intersection to Trakanphudphon district, take a turn toward the village for a distance of about 1 km. The chapel here is constructed on a replica of the Royal Barge, Suphan nahong, which is adorned with ceramic tiles, a beautiful edifice of typical Thai identity.



Phra Kaew Busarakham

Wat Nong Bua

Located About 3 kms. north of the townhall on Thamvithi Road. It was built in 2498 B.E.(1955), it has a architecturally interesting structure: the Si Mahapho Holy Relic Chedi which was erected to mark the 25th century of Buddhism in 2500 B.E. (1957). The edifice is a replica of the Great Chedi at Buddhagaya in India which enshrines the Holy Relics. Around the Chedi are glass walls on all four corners of which are installed four small chedis. There are four entries into the main chedi. When originally built, it had a width of 5 m. and about 17 m. high. When renovated with new coverings, it had been enlarged to 17 m. wide and 56 m. high. The renovation works were completed in 2512 B.E (1969).

Wat Maha Vanaram (Wat Pra Yai)

Located on Saphasith Road in Amphur Muang, and commonly referred to as Wat Pa Yai. It is an old temple of special significance to the province. Originally it was only a religious quarter used for meditation practices and built close to the time's of the town founding in 2322 B.E. (1779). During the regime of the 2nd governor, it was upgraded into a monastery and regarded as his temple. The Phra In Paeng statue was built by the first abbot and its name was changed to Wat Mahawan or Temple of the Great Forest. The present name of Wat Haha Vanaram was later given to be in line with modern preference.

The main religious icon is the Phra In Paeng, of Phra Chao Yai In Paeng. Cast in the posture of Marn Vichai, it was made of brick and mortar, gilded and lacquered in the Laotian style, with a lap width of about 3 m., and measure 5 m. tall from the base to the tip of the top-knot. On the fullmoon day of the 5th month (around April), rites are held to make merit with Mahachat Tataka sermons as well as lustral water-pouring on Phra Chao Yai In Paeng.



Phra In Paeng

Ubon Ratchathani National Museum

Built in 2461 B.E. (1918) on land donated through Prince Kromluang Sapasithprasong. It is located on Khuan Thani Road and Uparat Road. Its main building once served as the townhall. In 1983, the Ubon provincial authorities turned over the old townhall building to the Fine Arts Department for preservation. It was later turned into a national museum. The Ubon Ratchathani National Museum is regarded as one of the most perfect facilities in the country. It opens Wednesday-Sunday from 9 o'clock in the morning until four in the afternoon.



Ubon Ratchathani National Museum

Wat Phukhao Kaew

The temple is located at Phibunmangsan, about 44 kms. from the provincial town and one km. before the district proper on Highway # 217. Built in 2480 B.E.(1937) as a meditation facility, it has one of the more architecturally interesting chapel which is entirely adorned with tiles.

Typical Thai artistic style is represented in the design of the roof with all ornamentations. Designs incorporate portrayer of the Naga, delicate patterns which also combine the styles of India and ancient khmer.

Inside the Ubosot are bas-reliefs over the door and window panels depicting chronicles concerning holy relics and their history in brief. The lower level of the building is used for meditation sessions. Around the building are potteries on display.

Wat Pa Nanachart

Wat Pa Nanachart, meaning the International Temple in the Forest, is located at Ban Boong Wai, Tambon Boong Wai of Amphur Varinchamrab. It is about 14 kms. from town on Highway # 226 towards Si Saket. Several foreign monks are usually in residence to study Buddha teachings and meditation. Most of them speak fluent Thai and are capable of delivering sermons in Pali. Strict in their observance of the dharma, they are respected by all Thai Buddhists.



Wat Phukhao Kaew

Wat Toong Si Muang

Located on Luang Road, Wat Toong Si Muang was built by Chao Ariya wongsajan during the reign of King Rama III, then the head of the provincial clergy. As he had once attended religious studies at Wat Saket in Bangkok, he took back with him a replica of the Holy Footprint and enshrine it at a hall built specially to house it. The hall today serves as the chapel, the convocation hall, and is of the early Rattanakosin style combined with Vientianne influence. Each wall is adorned with murals which were painted at the same time as the construction.

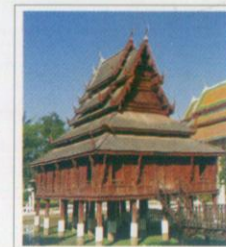
Another important structure in the temple is the Scripture Hall. A wooden building. it is situated in the center of a pond to prevent ants or termites from getting at the scriptures. Of Thai-Burmese-Laotian style, the actual building is of Thai appearance divided into four sections. Within the chamber housing the scripture cabinets, each side is painted with gold and lacquer. The roofs are of a combined Thai-Burmese arts with Choh Fah Bai Raka traditional decorative pieces. The over-lapping roofs reflect Burmese architectural style projected through Laotian Lan Xang art. The patterns and carvings over the two gables are of high Laotian style, displaying the different animal signs according to traditional astrology, as well as various designs based on plantlife.

Wat Nong Pa Phong

Located in Tambon Noan Noan, Amphur Varin-chamrab, or about 8 kms. from the provincial town on Highway # 2178 towards Amphur Kantralak. With a total area of over 186 Rais, it was once an abandoned temple and served as a cemetery. The area in general is wetland overgrown with reeds. In 2497 B.E. (1954), the highly venerated monk Luang Pu Cha initiated a project to turn it into a site suitable for meditation sessions. A monk's residence was established, which later became a monastery. The atmosphere is tranquil and conducive to the practice of meditation. Another interesting structure is the Phra Photiyan Museum which houses the few personal articles of use and Luang Pu Cha's wax figure. Another is Chedi Si Photiyan where his royally-sponsored cremation took place.



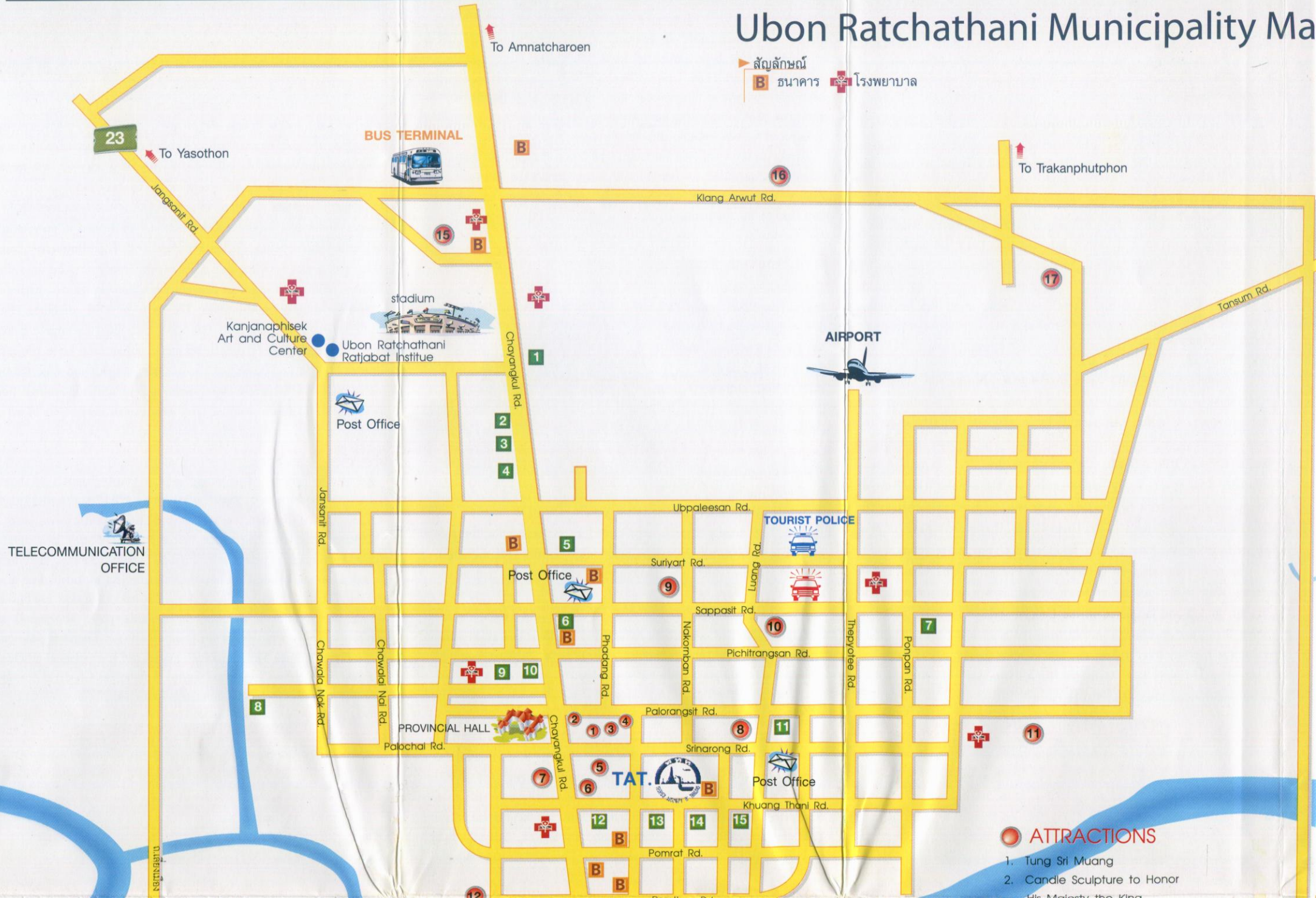
Wat Ban Na Muang



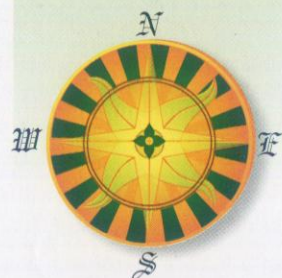
Hor Trai, Wat Tung Sri Muang

UBON RATCHATHAN

Ubon Ratchathani Municipality Map



► Stunning and amazing
the ruins reflect the over-thousand-year-old-civilization.►



1. Wat Nong Bua
2. Wat Nong Pa Pong
3. Wat Pa Nana Chat
4. Ban Pa Ao
5. The Sing Dhamat at Ban Chi Tuan
6. Wat Phu Kao Kaew
7. Kaeng Saphue
8. Sirinthon Dam
9. Chong Mek Market
10. Kaeng Tana National Park
11. Pak Moon Dam
12. Two Colour River
13. Pha Tam National Park
14. Soy Sawan Waterfall
15. Sang Jan Waterfall
16. Dong Na Tam
17. Phu Samuy
18. Had Salung Ban Song Don
19. Wat Pak Saeng
20. Wat Obmung
21. Hor Thai Khulu
22. Phu Lone
23. Prasart Thong Lang
24. Prasat Banben
25. Sai Ngam Temple
26. Bu Puay Village
27. Kaeng Lamduan
28. Emerald Triangle
29. Phu Jong Nayoi National Park
30. Phu Hin Dang
31. Kaeng E-Keow Waterfall

Useful Telephone Numbers

Provincial Authority Office 0-4525-4218



▶ Prasat Ban Ben

Prasat Ban Ben, at Ban Nong Om, Tambon Nong Om, Amphur Toong Si Udom, is about 63 kms. from town proper. A modest-sized Khmer religious temple, it is made up of three brick stupas, each on a separate base facing east. There is only one single entrance located at the middle structure which is connected to the path of laterite surfacing up to the Kopura (arched entrance).

The three stupas are encircled with low ornamental walls constructed of laterite which are almost totally surrounded by ponds except the frontal section. The base of what was once a four sided balcony (chaturamuk) still remains, which is believed to have been made of wood. During the restoration carried out by the Fine Arts Department in 1990, a lintel portraying the nine guarding spirits of the compass points was discovered as well as the god Indra riding the Erawan elephant. Judging from the architectural lay-out and the carving on the lintel, it is believed the site was built during late 15th or early 16th century B.E.

Phu Lon Monks' Quarters

Phu Lon Monks' Quarters, is located at Tambon Song Yang, Amphur Si Muang Mai, about 20 kms. from the district seat and 78 kms. from the provincial town to the northeast. It is believed that the highly revered monk, Phra Archan Mun Phurithatta Thera, used to meditate at the site. Today, it is a sacred site where the villagers often carry out merit-making rites. The natural surroundings are picturesque and peaceful.

The Singh Dharmat at Ban Chi Tuan

About 26 kms. from town and installed at the Sala Kanprian (sermons hall) of Wat Si Nuan in Ban Chi Tuan of Amphur Khuang Nai. The only dharmat (seat from which sermons are delivered) in Thailand that of an entirely different design. Its appearance is that of a singh (lion) holding up a prasat which serves as the seat, and made of bricks and mortar. The top of the Prasat-like seat are adornments made of wood and drawn in Annamese (Vietnamese) style in color. It is believed to have been constructed in 2468 B.E. (1925) by Annamese craftsmen. Today it is regarded as a highly valuable native sculpture.

Ban Kan Lueng Open Museum

Ban Kan Lueng Open Museum is located within the compound of Wat Ban Kan Lueng at Tambon Kham Yai, Amphur Muang, about 5 kms. on the north bypass from town proper. Excavations were started at this archaeological site in 1996 and the surrounding area has been developed. It now serves as an open museum for observation and study.

Evidence discovered from the excavations indicate that this ancient community was capable of rice cultivation. Traces of ores and other metals also show that the people knew how to utilize iron. It is believed that the community may have been in existence over 2,000 years ago.

Attractions-Nature

Hat Wat Tai

Another beach in Amphur Muang located near the local Provincial Electricity Generating Authority offices. It is a small sandy isle in the middle of the Mun River. During the dry season, white sandy beaches emerge surrounded by clear water. On the isle itself shady trees, and plants, thrive Foodshops on bamboo rafts offer delicious native and other dishes.

Hat Khu Duah

A sandy beach on the Mun River banks in Amphur Muang about 12 kms. from town on Liab Muang Road (#24) Moored against the bank are many foodshops on rafts offering local dishes and drinks to visitors. A pleasant spot for dining out and enjoying the views of the Mun.

▶ Chong Mek Point-G

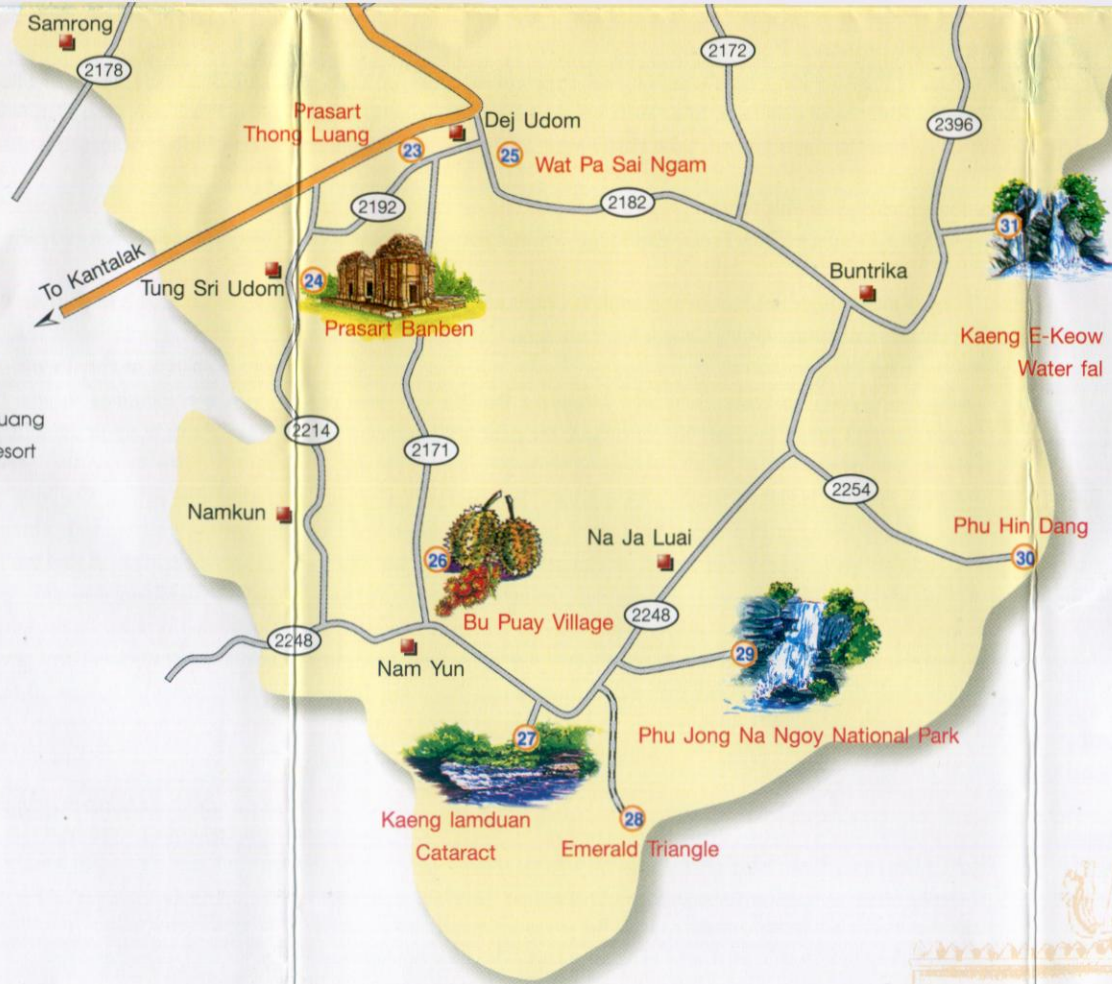
About 90 kms. from the pr 217 in Amphur Sirinthon. Cho point between Thailand and province which is a major dest from being the location of varie an extensive border market v Laotian territory that are accessi

Among the major attraction town of Pak Se, the capital o former capital of the provin community of Prasat Hin Wat The Si Than Don confluence w to a width of 7 kms. creating l Probably the most interesting ar waterfalls.

Foreigners entering Laos at Chu visa. Thais can use border pas three days by the Ubon Ratch office.

HOTEL

1. Nevada Grand & Nevada Inn
2. Patumrat
3. Tor Sang
4. Montana
5. Ubon Hotel
6. Sri Kamol
7. Lai Tong
8. Bordin
9. Krung Tong
10. Ratchathani
11. New Nakonluang
12. Ubon Buri Resort
13. River Moon Guest House
14. Sri Kulab



Phibul Mangsahan	0-4544-1108
Immigration office	
Muang District Police Station	191, 255226
Sapphasithiprasong	0-4524-0074,
Provincial Hospital	
Sapphasithiprasong Army	
Base Hospital	0-4532-1174
Payathai Hospital	0-4528-4001
Ratchavet Hospital	0-4528-0040
Ubonrak Hospital	0-4526-0300
Central Memorial Hospital	0-4525-4771
Ubon Ratchathani Airport	0-4524-4073
Thai Airways International	0-4531-3340-4,
(Public) Co.,Ltd.	0-4524-3037-9
TAT.Northeastern Office :	0-4524-3770-1
(Region 2)	
Pha Taem National Park	0-4524-9780
Kaeng Tana National Park	0-4524-9802
Phu Sa Dok Bua	0-4261-9076
National Park	

Point-Gateway to Indochina

... from the provincial town along Highway # Sirinthon. Chong Mek is a permanent crossing Thailand and Laos. It leads to Champasak is a major destination in Southern Laos. Apart cation of various government offices, it is also der market with duty-free facilities within hat are accessible to tourists.

major attractions in Champasak province is the the capital of the province. Champasak, the of the province which in itself is an old asat Hin Wat Phu, an ancient Khmer temple. confluence where the Mekhong River extends ms. creating large number of isles and rapids. t interesting are the Li Phi and Khon Phapheng

g Laos at Chong Mek require a Laotian entry use border passes that could be issued within e Ubon Ratchathani provincial administrative

Attractions-Handicraft Villages

Ban Pa-Ao

The 200-year-old brassware village of Ban Pa-Ao is located at Tambon Pa-Ao, Amphur Muang, about 21 kms. from the provincial town of Ubon along Highway # 23, including a three-km. stretch of side-rod leading to the village. In addition to weaving, the village also produces brass utensils for daily use and as souvenirs. The craft employs the so-called original Lost Waxing Method.

The Ban Sai Mun village,

About 15 kms. from the district town of Phibun Mangsahan on Highway#2222 (Phibun-Khong Chiam) has the distinction of being the forefront producer of brass gongs.

Attractions-Festivals and Fairs

The Candle Festival

Held on Khao Phansa Day (beginning of the Buddhist Rain Retreat in July) at the Toong Si Muang ground. Wax Candles fashioned in artistic styles are displayed in various temples. At night huge candles are on display around Toong Si Muang. The following morning the colorful Wax Candle Procession is held.

The Illuminated Boats Procession

Held on the Ok Phansa day (end of the Buddhist Rain Retreat in October), It is held along the Mun River at the foot of the Ratanakosin Bridge. The boats brightly and colorfully decorated represent various temples or entered by individuals. The event is an original Northeastern tradition maintained through generations.

The Traditional Long-Boat race

Organized along the Mun river in Ubon Ratchathani after the Ok Phansa celebrations are over (about October). Several races are held. One of the regularly-held events is organized by the Ubon Municipality around the Ratanakosin Bridge; at Phibun Mangsahan near the bridge; and at Wat Pho Tak, also in Amphur Phibun Mangsahan.

Songkran and Thai Indochinese Food Fair

Held during the Songkran celebration (mid-April) is the Maha Songgran event at Kaen Saphue, Amphur Phi-bun Mangsahan. Native folk-plays and entertainment feature

The Floral Float Fair

Usually held on February 14 at the stadium in Toong Kham Nam Sab in Varinchamrab district. Different kinds of flowers and flowering shrubs are on display and for sale.



Keang Tana

► ATTRACTIONS-NATURE

Kaeng Tana National Park

Covering an area of some 80 sq.kms. in Amphurs Khong Chiam and Sirithon, it can be reached from either district, about 70 and 85 kms. from the provincial town, respectively.

Don Tana is a naturally-formed isle across the Mun River, measuring 450 m. wide and 700 m. long. With suspended bridges across to two sides. To the north of Don Tana is a stretch of sandy beach suitable for recreation.

Kaeng Tana is formed when the Mun River flows around the two sides of the Don Tana heading straight for the rapids which are made up of huge rocky formations in mid-stream. The strong current etch into the high rocky barrier or flows around cracks and stone flats. With strong current and numerous underwater cave. The area teems with fish. Tourist season falls in January-May.

The Rak Sai Waterfall Nature Study Route around the cliff along the Mun River is about 500 m. from the Tourist Service Center. The route lies along the edge of the cliff for about one kilometer passing through sites lichens, moss and ferns, as well as the Tham Pra cave and the Rak Sai Waterfall.

Ban dai Pla Chohan (fish-jumping steps) at Pak Mun Dam. the dam itself is the crossway connecting highways # 217 and 2222 and is the site of the first such facility in Thailand built for the purpose of fishery conservation. The movement takes place around late June-July.

Tad Toan Waterfall

A small waterfall near the road, it is located in Amphur Sirinthon on Highway # 2173 (Sirinthon-Khong Chiam) September-December is the recommended time to visit Tad Toan.

Mae Khong tour at Khong Chiam

Khong Chiam, the easternmost district of Thailand, is about 75 kms. from the provincial town of Ubon Ratchathani. It is also one of the most scenic spots to view the Mekhong River. It is here that the Mekhong flows out from Thailand and where the Mun and the Mekhong converge to form the so-called the Two-Colored Current, and with the Mekhong in reddish-clay color and the Mun in blue. The convergence spot is near the Pha Taem and Kaeng Tana National Parks. There are adequate facilities, such as hotel, resorts and guesthouses of different accommodations, as well as restaurants and food-rafts. Small rented boats are available for cruises to the Two-Color Current, and cruise ships for the Mekhong itself. There are also direct bus services from Bangkok. Khong Chiam is regarded as one of the more popular sites from which to enjoy the Mekhong environments, particularly before and after a tour of Laos, which is about 30 kms. from the Chong Mek checkpoint.

Pha Taem National Park

The 212,500 -Rai Pha Taem National Park covers areas in Khong Chiam, Si Muang Mai and Pho Sai Districts bordering on Laos with the Mekhong River as demarcation line. To reach the park headquarters, located at the Pha Taem area, Ban Nong Phue Noi, Khong Chiam district, about 19 kms. from the district town, take Highway # 217 from the provincial town to Phibun Mangsahan district, then turn on to Highway # 2222 to Khong Chiam.

The Sao Chaliang of Pha Taem

The Sao Chaliang of Pha Taem, exotic rocky formations, are located about two kilometers before reaching the cliffs. They were created by natural erosion.

The 20 meter-high Soi Sawan Waterfall is to the east of Ban Nong Phue Yai, or about 17 kms. from the park headquarters on Highway # 2112. The cascades run strong during September-February.

The Pha Dong Na Tam Forest

The Pha Dong Na Tam Forest is located within the Phu Na Tam area of Amphur Khong Chiam, or about 36 kms. from the park headquarters. To reach it, take Highway # 2112 (Khong Chiam-Khemarat). Make a right turn at Ban Na Pho Klang and go pass Sasom to Wat Tham Patihan. Sight-seeing at Pha Dong Na Tam is basically nature-based. A walk takes in views and sceneries of the jungles, mountains and cliffs and the Mekhong River itself. Interesting features include the Sao Chaliang (rocky formations), rocky flats, caves, chasms, waterfalls, among others. During September-November is the right time to enjoy ground-level flowers, falls and the sea of mist along the river bank. January-March is the season when the leaves change color and dry-season flowers, water bloom. Cruise along the Mekhong at Ban Pakla Ban Khan Ta Kwian. is ideal at this time Trekking services can be obtained from the Na Pho Kang Tambon administrative authorities.

Phu Chong Na Yoi National Park

Covering areas in Amphurs Buntharik, Na Chaluay and Nam Yuen, the park borders on both Laos and Cambodia to form the so-called Sam Liam Morakot (Emerald Triangle), with a total area of 686 sq.kms. The park headquarters are located about 7 kms. south of Ban Kaeng Ruang village of Tambon Na Chaluay of the district of the same name, and about 17 kms. from the Amphur town, or 135 kms. from the provincial seat. Access is through highway # 24 (Det-Udom), # 2182 (Buntharik) and # 2248 (Na Chaluay).

Cave Paintings at Pha Taem

Cave Paintings at Pha Taem at the Pha Taem National Park is accessible right up to the cliff by a road Prehistoric color drawings appear on the cliffs facing the Mekhong River. They are divided into four groups: Pha Kham, Pha Mon Noi and Pha Mon. The Pha Taem group is the most accessible and contains more than 300 color drawings.

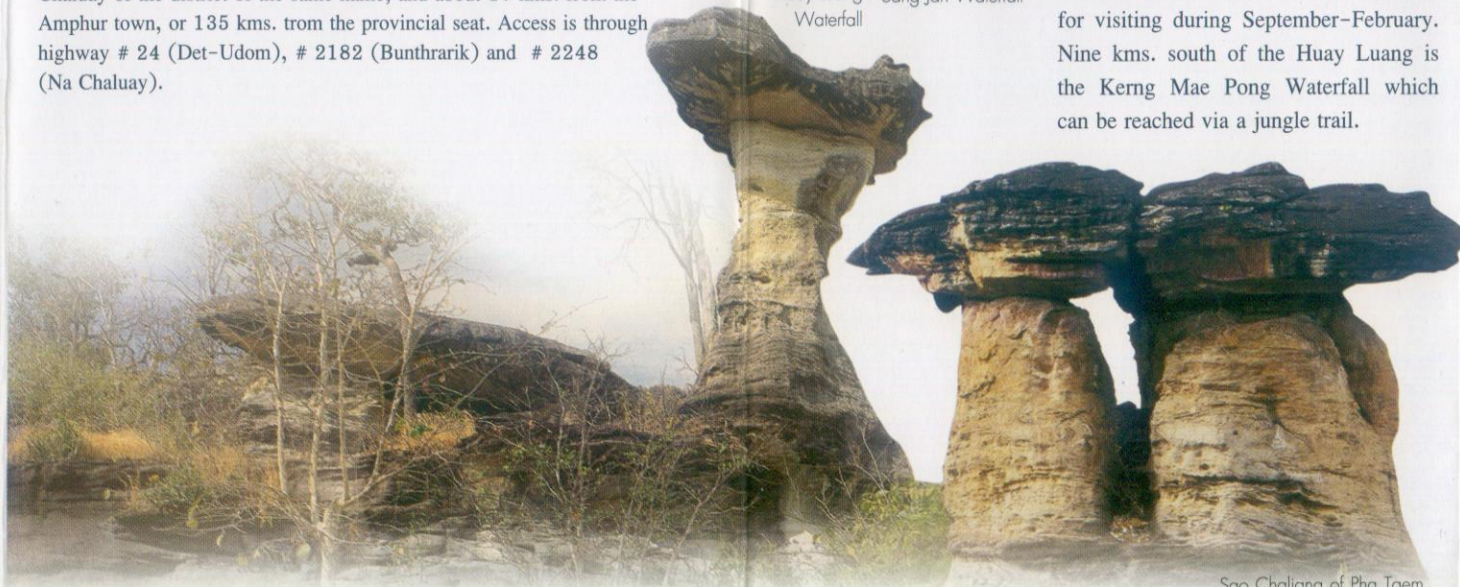
The 212,500 -Rais Pha Taem National Park covers areas in Khong Chiam, Si Muang Mi and Pho Sai districts bordering on Laos with the Mekhong River as the demarcation line. To reach the park headquarters, located at the Pha Taem area, Ban Nong Phue Noi, Amphur Khong Chiam, (about 19 kms. from the district town) take Highway # 217 from the provincial town to Amphur Phibun Mangsahan, then turn on to Highway # 2222 to Khong Chiam.



Huay Luang Waterfall Sang Jan Waterfall

Huay Luang Waterfall

Huay Luang Waterfall, also known as Bak Taey, (3.5 kms. south of the park headquarters), is accessible by car. Its 30 meter-high fall drops into a basin-like valley. With white sandy beach and emerald-green water, it is a pleasant site for visiting during September-February. Nine kms. south of the Huay Luang is the Kerng Mae Pong Waterfall which can be reached via a jungle trail.



Sao Chaliang of Pha Taem